

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 20, 2016. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Bob Conklin, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, John Stauter, and Chris Wilen. Absent: None.

Also present were City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Acting Police Chief Tim Morgan, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Shirley Sharp asked when the cul-de-sac at the end of Tenth Avenue is going to be repaired. She understands it is not City property but it is used for emergency vehicles and garbage trucks. Manager Shumard stated the cul-de-sac is not in the City limits. Superintendent Schrader stated that he had talked with the owner and he does not intend to do any repairs to the cul-de-sac. Roy Sharp stated that if citizens do damage to City property they have to pay restitution. These City trucks have done damage to the cul-de-sac and the City should do repairs.

Mary Carlson asked about municipal aggregation. She understood that if Commonwealth Edison's cost per kilowatt hour dropped lower than the aggregation that citizens would automatically be switched. Mayor Lee stated that the City does not have the authority to switch individual accounts. He also reminded citizens that they can switch but must stay with Commonwealth Edison for at least six months.

Irene Nusbaum, Manager of Caring Center, explained they are open on Mondays and Wednesdays with approximately 165 shoppers each day. Volunteers donate 1000 hours monthly to keep the Caring Center running. Nusbaum asked the City to consider providing six parking stalls for seven hours on Mondays and Wednesdays. Acting Chief Morgan explained that he received an email from Lt. Mohr that parking would be available in Lot #6 on Mondays and Wednesdays for an extended time to accommodate these volunteers.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of June 6, 2016
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$723,195.83
- C) Ordinance #2016-6-10 Ascertaining the Prevailing Wages for the City of Sterling**
- D) Payment to Illinois American Water Company for reimbursement for work on Avenue L in the amount of \$148,645.60

The motion was seconded by Alderman Schuchard. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to the approve reappointments to the Hospital Board and Library Board as recommended by Mayor Lee;

Hospital Board with five-year terms to expire June 30, 2021:

- Thomas McGlone, MD
- Marcia Jones, MD
- John Van Osdol
- Heather Sotelo

Library Board with a three-year term to expire June 30, 2019

- Tim Zollinger

The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard distributed the Strategic Plan. The project began in 2015, focusing on team building. Following are highlights of the plan.

Mission: The mission of the City of Sterling, Illinois is to govern, lead and provide city services in a manner that reflects the interests and values of Sterling's citizens and their highly desired quality of life.

Vision: Once the Hardware Capital of the World, Sterling has emerged as a community grounded in family life, superb local government services, a diverse economy and talented workforce.

Strategic Themes and Initiatives:

- Community Sustainability
- Economic Development and Workforce Development
- Neighborhood Life
- City Services, Funding Projects, and Employees to Complete them
- Communications

Mayor Lee opened a public hearing at 7:07 pm for the West Central Business District Redevelopment Plan. Geoff Dickinson with SB Friedman stated that this Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District was created in 1984 and has had two previous amendments: one to add property and one to extend the life to 2019. The proposed amendment will remove land from the West TIF to be added to the East TIF, extending time for development. Eligibility studies were not necessary because it is an existing TIF and those studies were conducted when the TIF was set in place.

Judy Velasquez, 405 Avenue C, asked how this would affect her property. Matt Keegan, with Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, explained that surrounding properties were

notified of the TIF Districts but it will not affect residential properties outside the TIF District.

Keegan continued by explaining that the Joint Review Board met on May 23 and approved this amendment. Following this hearing, the Council must wait 14 days to pass the ordinance accepting the amendment to the West Central TIF District.

Mayor Lee closed the public hearing for the amendment to the West Central TIF District at 7:20 pm.

Mayor Lee opened a public hearing for the East Central Business District Redevelopment Area at 7:21 pm. Dickinson explained the new redevelopment area has been defined and the eligibility study has been conducted.

Alderman Martin asked if the National Building and Lawrence Brothers building were considered in this TIF District. Manger Shumard stated that without plans in place, it is not a good time to start the meter running for developing those buildings.

Keegan reported notices were sent and public notice was given. The Joint Review Board has approved the East Central Business District Redevelopment Area. Three ordinances will be placed on the next Council agenda to adopt the TIF District.

Mayor Lee closed the public hearing for the East Central TIF District at 7:38 pm.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2016-6-14 Authorizing the Transfer of 1012 West Fourth Street to Bridge Investment Community Development Corporation**; seconded by Alderman Conklin. The original building was demolished and a duplex was reconstructed on the site. Bridge Investment Community Development Corporation, a component of GROWTH, has offered to take the property and become the manager ensuring that all NSP2 requirements are fulfilled. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Schuchard made a motion to award the base bid to seal the deep well at the old Northwestern Steel & Wire Plant in the amount of \$10,775 to Albrecht Well Drilling; seconded by Alderman Stauter. Manager Shumard explained this was a back-up well and needs to be sealed. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard reported that the City did not receive the grant for the Lawrence Brothers Building. This was the fifth year we have been turned down.

Alderman Martin reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Tuesday, July 5 to celebrate the 4th of July on Monday.

Alderman Elston reminded everyone of the weekly concerts and hopes for a movie at Grandon although the movies have been well attended at the Sterling Theater.

Mayor Lee thanked Public Works for their implementation of the electronic waste disposal. Lee also reminded everyone to not throw grass clippings into the street.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to move to a "Closed Session" at 7:48 pm to discuss the appointment of legal counsel for the City as provided for by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives as provided for by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Schuchard made a motion to reconvene the open meeting at 8:50 pm; seconded by Alderman Conklin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Conklin, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk